

call of February 17, 2004, that the present amendment capturing the previously indicated allowable subject matter would be considered.

Section 18-19 of the Final Office Action of September 16, 2003, indicated that claims 7, 13, 16, 18 and 23-24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Advisory Action clarified that claim 18 was incorrectly included in the recitation of allowable subject matter in section 18. With the present Response and amendments, Applicant has reformed claims 7, 13, 16, 23 and 24 to capture the subject matter indicated as allowable. These claims have been placed in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant makes this amendment to merely capture the subject matter indicated as allowable and neither intends or believes the present amendments are narrowing of the scope of the claims. Applicant further reserves the right to pursue any of the cancelled or deleted claims in a continuation application without prejudice.

Also by the present amendments, dependent claims 2-6 depend from allowable independent claim 7, and dependent claims 14-15 and 18-20 depend from independent claim 13. Applicant believes that claims 2-6, 14-15 and 18-20 are now allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Applicant believes that the rejections contained in sections 7-17 have been addressed by the above-referenced amendments to the claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that the objections to claims 7, 13, 16, 23 and 24 have been addressed, that rejections to claims 2-6, 14-15 and 18-20 have been overcome, and that all remaining pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution of this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott G. Ulbrich", written in a cursive style.

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